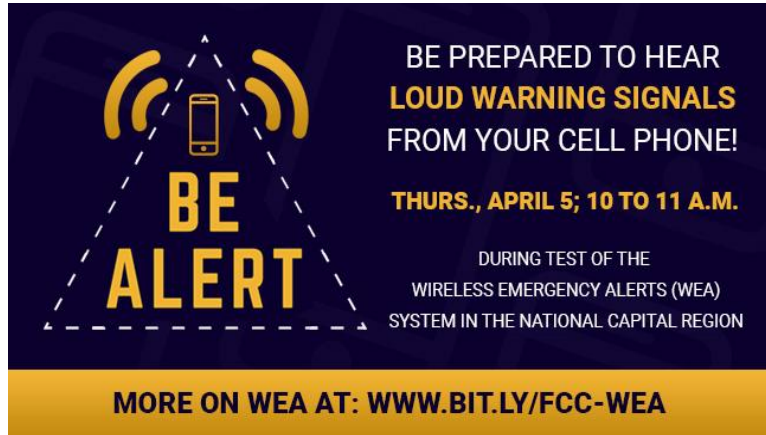




Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Timothy Firestine, Chief Administrator Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Arthur Edmunds, UCAB Chair

March 28, 2018



Montgomery County to Participate in April 5 Regional Test of the National Wireless Emergency Alerts System

We want to make certain that all Montgomery County residents, workers and visitors know that there will be a test of the national Wireless Emergency Alerts system on **Thursday, April 5, between 10:00am and 11:00am.** This is a regional test that will be conducted simultaneously in 20 jurisdictions in the National Capital Region.

The Wireless Emergency Alerts system was created by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in 2012, to broadcast emergency and life-threatening information. The state of Maryland sends out Amber Alerts and the National Weather Service can send out weather emergency messages through this system. It can also be used by the President of the United States to send an emergency message to the entire Country.

When a text-like message goes out, it causes your cell phone to vibrate and emit a loud (some say annoying) audio signal. So, if you haven't received a WEA message before, it can come as a bit of a disconcerting surprise.

You don't sign up or register for these alerts, they come automatically to WEA-enabled cell phones and other mobile devices.

That's why we want the public to know before April 5 at 10:00am that a regional test of the system will be taking place. On this day and time, it is just a test, not an indication that there is an actual emergency. No cause for alarm

Please take a moment to review the information about the WEA test, and please help spread the word to your neighbors, friends and family! Learn more about it at: [WEA Test](http://www.fcc.gov/emergency-alerts).

County Executive Leggett's Recommended Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019)



- **Budget Charts**
 - [Closing Budget Shortfalls](#)
 - [Controlling County Government Spending](#)
 - [Safer Streets by Investing in Police](#)
 - [Ensuring Adequate Reserves](#)
 - [Holding Down Property Taxes](#)
 - [Keeping Down Total Tax Burden](#)
- [View FY19 Recommended Operating Budget](#)



Michael Stenson
President



Nancy Blumberg
Vice President



Roger Mack
District 1



Anthony
District 2



Christine
District 3



Robert
District 4



George
District 5



George Lawson III
No Large



Craig
District 6

County Council to Hold Public Hearings on the Recommended Operating Budget for FY2019

The County Council will hold public hearings on the proposed operating budget on April 10, 11 and 12, 2018. Committee work sessions will begin April 16, 2018.

Enter the 2018 Girl Power Contest Sponsored by Montgomery County Commission for Women

Who will be the first female President of the United States? Will it be an up and coming lawmaker, a household name, or someone we haven't heard of yet? Or, could it be you? In recognition of Women's History Month, the Montgomery County Commission for Women is inviting residents to participate in its 2018 Girl Power Contest, "The First Female U.S. President."

Montgomery County residents age 5 to 105 are encouraged to submit a short story, poem, drawing, or anything else that addresses the contest theme. Submissions can be intellectual, emotional, funny, spiritual, or serious. Entries submitted by minors must include written permission from a parent or guardian and be the minor's own work. Creative entries are welcome, but entrants should refrain from using vulgarities and racist or sexist comments or images.

Submissions will be accepted through March 31 and are limited to one per person. Written entries should be no more than 500 words. Entries should include full name, age, grade and school (if applicable), phone number, and email address.

Entries will not be returned. Winners will be announced by April 14.

Additional contest details can be found at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/ under 2018 Girl Power Contest Information.

For more information, call 240-777-8300 or visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/

Plum Gar Community Recreation Center Offers April Activities!

19561 Scenery Drive, Germantown

Phone: 240-777-4919

Quest for Fun Fridays

Every Friday, April 6 through May 11 6:30pm-8:30pm

For ages 6-12 years

Sports, arts & crafts, Bingo, movies, music, dancing, DJ, Games & more!

Cost: \$30

Sign up for six consecutive Fridays of great KID fun! Space is limited.

Pre-registration is required. www.ActiveMontgomery.org Activity ID# 46915

Get Ready: Middle & High School Preparation

Saturday, April 7 10:00am-3:00pm

This seminar, for parents and children 11 years and older, is presented by Learn and Soar and will include information on K-12 education in the 21st century, the transitions to middle and high school, postsecondary education options, and academic support.

Preregister at www.ActiveMontgomery.org Activity ID# 48635.

New Hip Hop for Kids!

Saturdays, April 14 through June 9 10:00am

Join this 8-week program and get ready to pop, lock, and rock your body in the action-packed dance program.

Cost: \$80

Register at www.ActiveMontgomery.org Activity ID #47810 (ages 5-8) or #47811 (ages 9-13)



Matching Grant Program to Help Expand Biotechnology Sector and Encourage Innovation

Council enacts bill to provide matching grants for innovation research and technology transfer

Last week, the County Council unanimously enacted Bill 41-17, Economic Development Fund – Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Matching Grant Program – Established, which will establish a County matching fund for businesses that receive federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grants. The goal of this bill is to encourage small businesses that receive federal grants under SBIR and STTR grant programs to locate in the County.

Bill 41-17 establishes a County matching grant for County-based small businesses that receive either a Phase I or Phase II grant under either the SBIR or the STTR from the National Institutes of Health. County grant awards will be provided up to 25 percent of a Phase I grant with a cap of \$25,000 or 25 percent of a Phase II grant up to \$75,000. A grantee may receive one County matching grant each year and a total of five County matching grants under this program.

The County's new matching fund program will be administered by the Department of Finance and more details on the application process will be determined by County regulation.

The Council staff report on Bill 41-17 can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/ycbspkh6>.

Montgomery County Citizenship & Legal Immigration Fair
Saturday, April 14 12:30pm-4:00pm
Montgomery Blair High School Cafeteria
51 University Blvd. East, Silver Spring

County Executive Ike Leggett and Council President Hans Reimer at 1:00pm

Questions on TPS/DACA? Interested in becoming a citizen? Have other legal immigration questions?

Mock Citizenship Interviews and Q&A with USCIS

Meet with Citizenship and Legal Immigration Service Providers in Montgomery County

- 1:00pm discussion and Q&A with Montgomery County Leaders, moderated by Alonso Castillo from Telemundo 44
- 2:00pm breakout sessions: Citizenship, TPS/DACA and Know Your Rights

Spanish Interpreters Available

For interpreters in other languages, including sign language, please call or email at least 72 hours ahead of time to make a request. We accommodate all language requests. Send an email to diane.vu@montgomerycountymd.gov or call 240.777.8320 by no later than April 11.

50+ EMPLOYMENT EXPO	
	RETOOL, RECHARGE, REINVENT Monday, April 16, 2018 • 10am-3pm Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center 5701 Marinelli Road, Bethesda, Maryland <small>Easy access via the metro redline — White Flint metro stop. * Parking: the Maryland garage requires vouchers, and JCA will provide them.</small>
OVER 50 & LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT?	
For more information or accommodations, e-mail mgordon@AccessJCA.org or call 301-255-4209	

50 Plus Employment Expo
Monday, April 16 10:00am-3:00pm
Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center
5701 Marinelli Road, Bethesda
Keynote Speaker: Leon Harris, News 4 Anchor

RETOOL, RECHARGE, REINVENT! Hear Leon Harris who joined the News 4 team after 21 years at CNN in Atlanta and 14 years in D.C. local news. Easy access via the metro redline — White Flint metro stop.

Become a Foster Parent in Montgomery County

Last year almost two hundred children in Montgomery County were temporarily separated from their parents. These children come from a cross-section of the community—from a variety of social and economic backgrounds, from every race, religion, and nationality. Their ages range from infancy to young adulthood. They may come from homes where there has been a family breakdown. Visit montgomerycountymd.gov/fosterparent for more information.

Tax credit could be available for eligible Montgomery County low-income renters who are 60 or older, permanently disabled or have a dependent child under 18

Eligible residents who are struggling with rising rent payments must apply by September 1, 2018.

Montgomery County renters with household income up to \$73,000 may qualify for a tax credit of up to \$1,000 if they are age 60 or older, are 100 percent disabled or if they are under age 60 and have dependent children under age 18. The program is designed to help renters who are struggling with rising rent payments and meet the program's eligibility criteria.

The Montgomery County's Renters Tax Credit program is managed by the State of Maryland and enhanced by Montgomery County. Renters who qualify will receive one check from Maryland and another from Montgomery County.

Checks from Montgomery County are mailed once a year—in January.

Applications must be filed by September 1. Application forms are available by calling 1-800-944-7403 or via email at taxcreditapp@maryland.gov.

Applications also can be [printed out online from the website](#). Applicants can fill out the form, include supporting documents and mail it to the address provided.

To learn more about the program, go to montgomerycountymd.gov/Finance/renter.html.

The Housing Initiative Partnership is providing help to those who need assistance in determining if they qualify. For assistance, call 301-916-5946 or email ccastro@hiphomes.org.

In 2016 the County enacted a County supplement to the State Renters' Tax Credit so that all renters who receive the State credit also will receive the County supplement that is equal to 50 percent of the State credit. A separate application for the County supplement is not needed because when a renter applies for the State credit, the State calculates the eligible credit and sends that information to the County. The County then calculates the Montgomery supplement.

Montgomery County is Recertified in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities

Montgomery County has earned renewed certification in the [AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities](#), as part of the [World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities](#). The certification recognizes Montgomery County's achievements thus far in becoming even more age-friendly.

Participation in the Age-Friendly network involves a multi-step process of improvement. Of the 226 participating communities in the AARP network, Montgomery County is among 31 localities that has achieved step two of the process, which involves developing an [action plan](#).

[Age-Friendly Montgomery County](#) is an initiative to enhance the County as a diverse *Community for a Lifetime* where residents can age, thrive to their full potential and contribute as a powerful resource in making the County a better, stronger, more inclusive community for everyone.

Age-Friendly Montgomery County includes ten domains and missions: Civic and Social Involvement; Communication and Outreach; Elder Abuse Prevention; Employment; Health and Wellness; Home and Community Based Services; Housing; Planning, Outdoor Spaces, and Buildings; Senior Public Safety; and, Transportation and Mobility. Information about each of these initiatives is available at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/senior

For additional information about this initiative, visit the [Age-Friendly Montgomery County website](#).



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN:

<https://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org/>

For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:

County Council http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/press_List.aspx?id=01

Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/departments/news_releases

Also check out the latest from:

Department of Public Libraries <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library>

Department of Recreation <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/rectmpl.asp?url=/content/rec/index.asp>

Department of Transportation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html>

Department of Environmental Protection <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/deatmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/dephome/index.asp>

Department of Permitting Services <http://permittingservices.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/general/Home.aspx>

Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>

Office of Community Partnerships <http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs100/1102184431012/archive/1117215431562.html>

Commission for Women <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/index.html>

Parks Department <http://www.montgomeryparks.org>

Planning Department <http://montgomeryplanning.org>